

S-281  
William J. Coulbourn Farm  
Hopewell vicinity  
private

c. 1850-1860

Dating to around 1850-1860, the William J. Coulbourn farmhouse is a two-story, "telescope" style frame dwelling located near Jones Creek and the small crossroads of Hopewell. Architectural details and construction evidence suggest this long four-part house was built in one period. The main two-story side hall/parlor house is framed by paneled pilasters and trimmed with bracketed eaves. An engaged two-story porch (now enclosed) covers the front of the main block. Attached to the south gable end is a slightly shorter two-bay section also trimmed with brackets. The house extends farther south with a two-bay hyphen that connects the story-and-a-half one-room kitchen.

From the available evidence so far accumulated it appears that William Coulbourn erected this house during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. William C. Coulbourn, listed in the Somerset County atlas as a ship carpenter, is documented on the patron list as owning fifty-six acres on Jones Creek. After William Coulbourn's death, the property passed to his wife, Sarah E. Coulbourn, and then in the event of her death, the farm would be inherited by their son, William J. Coulbourn (SCL 5/510). William J. Coulbourn and his wife, Mary Clayton Coulbourn, remained on the Jones Creek property until Mary sold the property to Helen L. Bordwell in December of 1941 (121/474).

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-281

Magi No. 2002815535

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William J. Coulbourn Farm

and/or common Nelson Coulbourn House

## 2. Location

street & number West side of Old Crisfield - Marion Road (MD 667) ☐ not for publicationcity, town Hopewell ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Thomas R. Meadows

street &amp; number Route 2 Box 66 telephone no.: 968-3059

city, town Crisfield state and zip code MD 21817

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street &amp; number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-281

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The William J. Coulbourn Farm is located on the west side of the Old Crisfield - Marion Road, near Hopewell, Somerset County, Maryland. The four-part "telescope" style frame house faces east with the principal gable running on a north/south axis. Accompanying the house are several farm buildings which include a small barn, and a corn crib. A small cottage is located south of the house.

Dating to 1850-1860, the side hall/parlor dwelling and additions are supported by a minimal brick foundation, while the entire house is uniformly sheathed with aluminum. Medium pitched wood shingle roofs have extended eaves on the main block. The eaves to the main house are bracketed, while the corners of the house are trimmed with paneled pilasters.

The east elevation is a nine-bay facade divided into four parts. The main block is three bays across, and it is covered by an enclosed two-story porch. The porch roof is a continuation of the main roof slope; the corners are marked with paneled pilasters, and the eaves are bracketed. The front wall of the house, now enclosed behind the porch wall, has an entrance in the south (left) bay. The paneled front door is topped by a criss-crossed muntin transom. Six over six sash windows fill the adjacent two bays. The second floor is divided into three bays with a second floor porch door in the south bay and two six over six sash to the north.

The north gable end of the main house is a symmetrical elevation with six over six sash on each floor flanked by louvered shutters. A pair of 2/2 attic sash flank the interior end brick chimney, which is finished with a corbelled cap.

The west (rear elevation has a three-sided bay window that lights the first floor with six over six sash windows. A back entrance to the hall has a partially glazed door and a criss-crossed muntin transom. A side six-pane window lights a small bathroom below the stair. The second floor is evenly divided into three bays with six over six sash windows and louvered shutters.

The south gable end of the main house is largely covered by a two-story two-bay section trimmed with brackets. An identical internal end brick chimney with corbelled cap rises from the south gable end. The east elevation has a door in the north bay and an adjacent 6/6 sash window. Two 6/6 sash windows light the second floor.

A single-story two-bay hyphen connects the previously described section to the story-and-a-half kitchen. A glazed door and adjacent 6/6 sash window pierce the east as well as the west walls. The eave is enclosed by a simple board soffit.

The story-and-a-half kitchen is two bays across by one-room deep with an exterior common bond brick chimney. The first floor has a glazed door in the north bay and an adjacent six over six sash window, whereas the second floor, or loft is lighted by small four-pane windows. The eaves are finished with board soffits and the gable ends are flush. Extending from the west side of the kitchen is a small hyphen and utility room of more recent date.

## 8. Significance

Survey No.

S-281

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates****Builder/Architect**check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/orApplicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GLevel of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The William J. Coulbourn House is one of a few telescope frame houses in Somerset County. However, an application of aluminum siding and thorough remodeling inside have seriously compromised the architectural significance of this mid 19th century house. Middle partitions were removed to make the second and third first floor rooms one continuous space. Most significant is the overall form of the house and its mid 19th century features not covered with aluminum. The engaged two-story porch is a relatively rare feature for a rural dwelling.

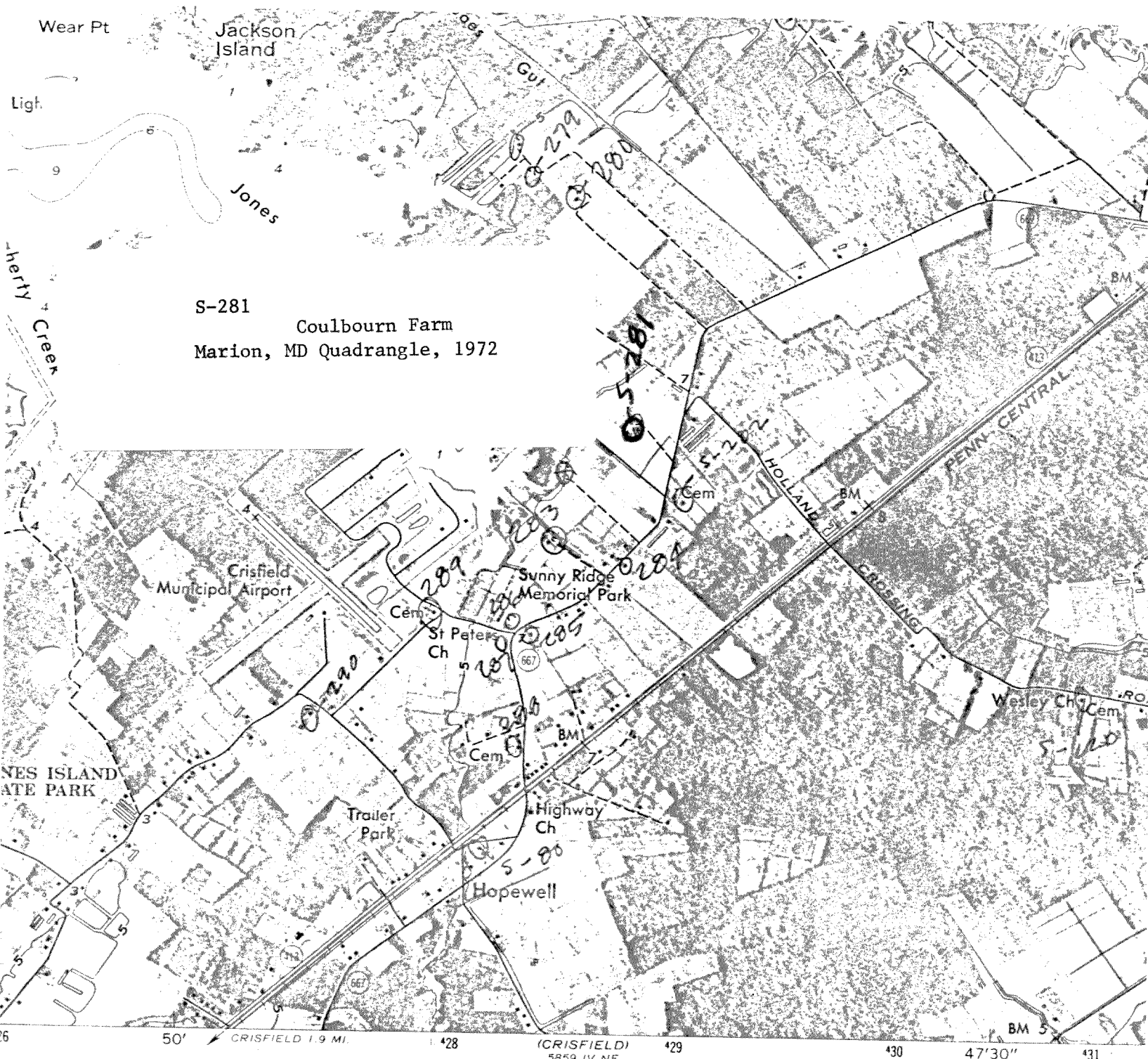
Survey No. S-281

## PS-2746

Description (cont.)

The interior of the main house has been generally reworked, but most of the original features were maintained. Located in the side hall is a walnut stair with a turned newel post, turned balusters, and a curved handrail. A shallow four-panel door opens into the adjacent parlor which survives with its mid-19th century mantel. Widely fluted pilasters support a plain frieze and thick mantel shelf. The hall as well as the parlor are trimmed with ogee-molded baseboards.

The second floor is simply finished, while an enclosed stair rises to the attic. The attic has been finished off. A small access door opens into the space above the adjacent section, which indicates the two principal sections were built in one period. In all likelihood, the entire house was built at the same time due to the consistency of woodwork and construction features throughout the house. Most framing members are circular sawn, and the nails are mature cut nails. The interiors of the kitchen and hyphen have been thoroughly remodeled. A small stair in the kitchen rises to the loft above. Circular sawn floor joists have been exposed in each room.



MN  
GN  
0°30'  
9 MILS  
D 1972 MAGNETIC NORTH  
N AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MARYLAND  
QUADRANGLE





Coulbourn Farm

S-281

Near Marion, Somerset County  
East Elevation

Photographer-Paul Touart 4/85

Neg/Md. Hist. Trust



Coulbourn Farm

S-281

Near Marion, Somerset County

Northwest Elevation

Photographer-Paul Touart 4/85

Neg/Md. Hist. Trust